Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the following claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for distributing software comprising:

     producing a host software file by a host software manufacturer;

     providing the host software file from the host software manufacturer to a certification entity;

     testing the operation of the host software file by the certification entity;

     certifying the host software file for operation in a host wherein certifying the host software file for operation in a host comprises certifying the host software file for execution on a host associated with a specific host manufacturer and a model associated with the specific host manufacturer;

     establishing a first connection from a data processing system to a host file database;

     transferring the host software file from the data processing system to the host file database after the host software file has been certified by the certification entity;

     receiving confirmation of receipt of the host software file from the host file database;

     identifying an enhanced services system to receive the host software file;

     establishing a second connection from the host file database to the enhanced services system; and

     transferring the host software file from the host file database to the enhanced services system.

2. (cancelled)

3. (original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the data processing system is operated by the certification entity or the host software manufacturer.

4. (original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the host software includes at least one of a host

protocol file, host data file, host profile file, service data file, or host configuration message set file.

5. (original)   The method of claim 4 wherein the host data file contains software objects for execution in the host.

6. (original)   The method of claim 4 wherein the host profile file indicates one of a plurality of resources incorporated in the host, wherein at least one of the resources processes digital video signals.

7. (original)   The method of claim 6 wherein the host profile file is used to create a user-interface in a configuration message set creation system that determines at least one host configuration message.

8. (original)   The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:
        authenticating the data processing system to the host file database prior to transferring the host software file.

9. (original)   The method of claim 7 further comprising the step of:
        authenticating the host file data base to the enhanced services system prior to transferring the host software to the host file database.

10. (original)   The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:
        recording an indication in the host file database of the transfer of the host software file to the enhanced services system.

11. (original)   The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of:
        recording a second indication in the host file database of the receipt of the host software file from the data processing system.

12. (original)   The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

maintaining an enhanced services system communication file comprising an address associated with the enhanced services system, communication parameters for use in transferring the host software file to the enhanced services system, and authentication data associated with the enhanced services system.

13. (original)   The method of claim 12 wherein the step of establishing a second connection from the host file database to the enhanced services system comprises establishing a second connection from the host file database to the enhanced services system using the communication parameters maintained in the communication file.

14. (currently amended)   A method of downloading software, comprising:

producing host software by a host software manufacturer to control a host;

providing the host software to a certification entity;

receiving a certification indication from the certification entity indicating the host software is compatible with the host;

establishing a connection from a first data processing system operated either by the host software manufacturer or the certification entity to a second data processing system, the second data processing system comprising a database for storing host software to be downloaded to a host;

authenticating the first data processing system to the second the data processing system;

transferring a copy of the host software comprising an a host protocol file and a host profile file to the second data processing system after the certification entity has certified the host software; and

receiving a confirmation indication from the second data processing system of the receipt of the host software;

identifying one of a plurality of an enhanced services systems to receive the host software;

establishing a connection from the second data processing system to the one of the

plurality of enhanced services systems; and

transferring the host software to the one of a plurality of enhanced services

systems.

15. (original)   The method of claim 14 wherein the host protocol file comprises at least one host specific protocol message used by an enhanced services server to interact with the host.

16. (original)   The method of claim 14 wherein the host profile file indicates a host type comprising a specific host manufacturer and a model associated with the specific host manufacturer.

17. (original)   The method of claim 14 wherein the host protocol file contains a version number associated with the host protocol file.

18. (original)   The method of claim 14 wherein the certification indication includes an identification associated with the host, the identification further associated with a specific host manufacturer and a model of the specific host manufacturer.

19. (original)   The method of claim 14 wherein the host file database records a date and time of receipt of the host software, the certification indication, and the confirmation indication.

20. (original)   The method of claim 14 where the host software file contains software objects capable of being executed in a consumer electronics host wherein the consumer electronics host processes digital multi-media signals.

21. (cancelled)

22. (currently amended)   The method of claim 21 14 where the step of transferring the host software to the one of a plurality enhanced services systems system further includes transferring

a copy of the certification indication.

23. (currently amended)   A method of downloading software, comprising:

receiving a host software file at a host file database, the host software file for configuring a host the host software file contains messages for interacting with the host on a cable distribution network wherein the host is associated with a specific host manufacturer and a model of the specific host manufacturer;

maintaining a first list of at least one enhanced services system, the enhanced services system further associated with a destination address and the host software file;

maintaining a second list of the destination address associated with a set of communication parameters, the set of communication parameters including authentication information;

establishing a communications path between the host file database and the enhanced services system, the communications path using the destination address;

authenticating the host file database to the enhanced services system using in part the set of communications parameters;

transmitting the host software file from the host file database to the enhanced services system;

receiving a confirmation of the receipt of the host software file from the enhanced services system; and

recording an indication of the confirmation of the receipt of the host software file, the indication recorded in the host file database.

24. (original)   The method of claim 23 further comprising the steps of:

storing the host software file in a second database located at the enhanced services system;

transmitting a copy of the host software stored in the second database to a host;

receiving a confirmation of receipt of the software from the host; and

recording an indication in the second database regarding the software downloaded to the

6 of 47

host.

25. (original)   The method of claim 24 further comprising the steps of :

transmitting the host software file from the enhanced services system to the host; and

executing the host software in the host.

26. (original)   The method of claim 24 further comprising the steps of:

transmitting an indication of certification of the host software file; and

verifying in the enhanced services system that the indication of certification has been

received prior to transmitting a copy of the host software to the host.

27. (original)   The method of claim 23 wherein the transmitting of the host software file from

the host file database uses the Internet.

28. (original)   The method of claim 27 wherein the host software file comprises at least one

from the group of host protocol file, host profile file, host data file, and host configuration

message set file.

29. (original)   The method of claim 23 wherein the step of establishing a

communications path between the host file database and the enhanced services system is

determined in part based on a time indicated in the communication parameters.

30. (cancelled)

31. (original) A method of downloading host software comprising:

   receiving a host software file associated with a specific host manufacturer and a model associated with the specific host manufacturer;

   determining an enhanced services system to receive the host software file;

   establishing a connection from the enhanced services system to a host file database;

   authenticating the enhanced services system to the host file database;

transferring the host software from the host file database to the enhanced services system; and

recording an indication of the date and time associated with the transferring of the host software to the enhanced services system.

32. (previously presented)   The method of claim 31 where the host software comprises a host protocol file and a host profile file.

33. (original) The method of claim 31 wherein transferring the software uses a file transfer protocol over the Internet.

34. (original) The method of claim 31 wherein the step of determining an enhanced services system to receive the host software file further comprises the steps of:

   retrieving a file associating an enhanced services system with a plurality of host types, each host type comprising a specific host manufacturer identifier and a model identifier associated with the specific host manufacturer; and

   determining if the host software file received matches one of the plurality of host types associated with the enhanced services system.

35. (original) The method of claim 31 wherein the host software file is tested for operation on a specific host manufacturer and host manufacturer's model.

36. (original)   The method of claim 31 further comprising the steps of:

storing the host software file in a second database located at the enhanced services system;

transmitting at least a portion of the host software file stored in the second database to a host;

receiving a confirmation of receipt of the software from the host; and

recording an indication in the second database regarding the software download to the host.

37. (currently amended)   A method for downloading software, comprising:

communicating a software module associated with a brand and model of a consumer electronics host device to a host file database;

communicating a certification indication associated with the software module to the host file database, the host file database recording the certification indication in association with the software module;

communicating the software module from the host file database to an enhanced services system, the enhanced services system comprising a server and a database for storing the software module, the server operatively connected to a cable distribution network;

detecting activation of a host, the host associated with the host manufacturer and further associated with a model of the host manufacturer, the host connected to the cable distribution network; and

transmitting the software module from the server to the host.

38. (original)   The method of claim 37 wherein detecting activation of a host is initiated by the receipt of a message from a host transmitted in a two-way cable network.

39. (original)   The method of claim 37 further comprising the step of:

recording in an enhanced services server an indication associated with transmitting the software module from the server to the host.

40. (original) The method of claim 37 further comprising the step of:

executing the software module on a processor in the host.

41. (currently amended)   A method of loading software comprising:

loading a host protocol file associated with a type of host;

loading a host profile file associated with the type of host;

processing the host profile file to provide a user-interface for selecting at least one service related parameters associated with a service;

receiving a user input to determine the at least one service related parameter;

using the host protocol file and the at least one service related parameter to generate a host configuration message; and

associating the host configuration message with the type of host.

42. (original) The method of claim 41 wherein the host configuration message is a statically created configuration message.

43. (original) The method of claim 41 wherein the host configuration message is a dynamically created configuration message.

44. (original) The method of claim 41 wherein the type of host is associated with a host manufacturer and a model of the host manufacturer.

45. (original) The method of claim 41 wherein the host protocol file comprises a plurality of protocol messages associated with the type of host.

46. (original) The method of claim 41 wherein the host profile file contains a list of capabilities associated with the type of host.

47. (previously presented)   The method of claim 41 wherein storing the configuration message

comprises storing the host configuration message in a file in an enhanced services system.

48. (original) The method of claim 41 wherein the configuration message is an executable command on a processor in a host.

49. (previously presented) A system for downloading host software file to a database, comprising:

a data processing system transmitting a host software file, the data processing system comprising a database capable of receiving and storing the host software file and maintaining an association of the host software file with a host manufacturer, the database further maintaining an association of the host software file with a specific host model of the host manufacturer, the database storing a certification file associated with the host software file, the database associating the host software file with an enhanced services system; and

a communications network, operatively connected to the data processing system, receiving the host software file from the data processing system and transferring the host software file to the enhanced services system.

50. (original) The system of claim 49 wherein the communications network comprises the Internet.

51. (previously presented) The system of claim 49 further comprising:
a cable distribution network operatively connected to the enhanced services system at a headend of the cable distribution network capable of receiving the host software file from the enhanced services system.

52. (previously presented)   A system, comprising:

an enhanced services system operatively connected to a communications network, receiving and storing at least one host software file in a database, wherein the database stores at least one host address associated with the host software file; and

a cable distribution network having a headend, operatively connected to the enhanced services system at the headend receiving the host file from the enhanced services system and transmitting the host software file to a host associated with the host address.

53. (original)   The system of claim 52 wherein the database further stores a host type associated with the host software file, the host type comprising a host manufacturer identifier and a model identifier of the host manufacturer.

54. (previously presented)   The system of claim 52 further comprising:

a host connected to the cable distribution network, the host receiving the host software file.

55. (original)   The system of claim 52 wherein the cable distribution network supports two-way communication.

56. (original)   The system of claim 52 wherein the cable distribution network is a one-way communication network.

57. (previously presented)   The system of claim 52 wherein the database further stores an indication of the host software file transmitted to the host.

58. (original)   A system for distributing software to a host, comprising:

means for communicating a host software file from a host software manufacturer to a host file database, the host software file containing an indication of certification for operation in the host;

means for communicating the host software file from the host file database to an enhanced services system, the enhanced service system comprising a server and database for storing the host software file;

means for triggering the download of host software from the database to the host; and

means for communicating the host software file from the server to a host using a cable distribution network.